

required to retire, subject to certain qualifications. The resolution before us is that age-limit must be removed. An officer

**Correction Slip to Vol. IV, Part I of the Cochin
Legislative Council Proceedings.**

For page 55, line 8 and the following and page 56, lines 1 to 20, substitute the following.—

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There are cases in which officers may attain their 55th year in future. I do not want to extend this privilege to them without testing their capacity. In the case of those whose capacity has been tested and found quite competent, it is urged that they may continue for ever.

President.—Mr. C. A. Ouseph's amendment is as follows:—

"That 'deleted from the Service Rules' be omitted, and in their place may be added suspended in the case of all persons who, having completed their 55th year, are, at present, by permission of Government, continuing in service;" I think your position is the same.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Mine is different, Sir. I want the rule to be suspended. I will put it more explicitly.

President.—I have allowed the two amendments and we shall continue the discussion of them.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I wish to say a few words while moving this amendment. The rule is that officers in the superior service who have attained the age of 55, shall be required to retire, unless public interest of prime importance requires to remain them in the service.

Read:—Service Regulation, Rule No. 201.

"An officer in superior service who has attained the age of 55 years shall be required to retire, unless the Diwan considers that the public interests require his retention and permits to remain in the service."

In the resolution moved by the Member for Irinjalakkuda there is nothing mentioned with regard to capacity and efficiency. Provision is not made in the resolution that the officer's capacity after the 55th year has also to be taken into account and tested before he is allowed to continue in the service. Of course, in his speech he has emphasised that aspect of the question. Since it was omitted in the resolution I had to bring this amendment. My object was unless you test the capacity of those who have attained the 55th year it should not be allowed as a rule, that every officer will be able to continue even after 55 years. In the case of those who have already passed now the age of 55, and whose capacity has been already

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—With advancement of old age, knowledge and sympathy will increase. So old age is necessary for education and protection; with advancement in age experience may increase.

President.—Advancement in age brings second childishness also.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That is why I say the rule should be restricted to those who have already been given extension. Experience increases with old age. In the case of medicine old age is highly essential. Even though at a later stage in the case of operations, if the hands may shiver, there will be the son also to assist.

President.—That is a personal attack.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The old physician and the young surgeon is the old proverb.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Then with old age advances modesty of youth, the broad outlook and the wide knowledge which are necessary for general administration. Then there is another aspect. There will be a saving by way of pension. It is for these reasons that I move the amendment.

At this stage, the House rose for lunch. It met again after an hour—at 3 p. m.

Announcement of the demise of Her Highness Kunjamma Tampuran of Cochin, the members remained standing.

President.—I have to announce with the deepest regret the demise of Her Highness Kunjamma Tampuran this noon at 12—52, and we have to stop our Proceedings as a mark of respect to the memory of Her Highness. To-day and the two succeeding days will be observed as public holidays, and the Gazette Extraordinary has been issued for the closing of all public offices. It has become necessary, therefore, that we should adjourn our meeting, and in consultation with the Progressive Party and other Members, I wish to fix the date of the next meeting on Monday, the 27th of Vrischigam for 5 days so that the next meeting will be held on the 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th of Vrischigam and the 1st of Dhanu.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—1st is the College Day.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The College Day celebration is only in the evening.

President.—It is treated as a local holiday at Ernakulam. Then we have to be satisfied with 4 days' sitting in the circumstances of the case, and it is not possible for us to adjourn the meeting after December. So I think we shall agree to have the next meeting for 4 days viz., on the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. That I trust will be agreeable to all. I need hardly say